

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R835 CLG-D

S.B. 353
By: Zaffirini
Human Services
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As Filed

DIGEST

The 71st Texas Legislature created the Texas Office for the Prevention of Developmental Disabilities (TOP) to coordinate public and private efforts aimed at reducing the economic and human losses caused by preventable disabilities. The agency is governed by a nine-member executive committee of experts in children's health and developmental disabilities. Since 1989, TOP has worked in partnership with public and private organizations to promote disability prevention, including the use of bicycle helmets to prevent head and spinal cord injuries, and increased awareness of fetal alcohol syndrome. As a result of its review of the Texas Office for the Prevention of Developmental Disabilities, the Sunset Advisory Commission recommended continuation of the Texas Office for the Prevention of Developmental Disabilities and several statutory modifications.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 353 continues the Texas Office for the Prevention of Developmental Disabilities until September 1, 2007.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Sec. 112.045, Human Resources Code, by amending Subsections (b) and (d) by adding standard language developed by the Sunset Advisory Commission regarding appointments to the executive committee of the Texas Office for the Prevention of Developmental Disabilities (TOP).

SECTION 2. Amends Chapter 112C, Human Resources Code, by adding Sections 112.0451 through 112.0454, 112.0471, and 112.0472 as follows:

Sec. 112.0451. CONFLICT OF INTEREST. Adds standard language developed by the Sunset Advisory Commission regarding conflict of interest.

Sec. 112.0452. REMOVAL OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER. Adds standard language developed by the Sunset Advisory Commission regarding the removal of executive committee members.

Sec. 112.0453. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER TRAINING. Adds standard language developed by the Sunset Advisory Commission regarding executive committee member training.

Sec. 112.0454. PUBLIC ACCESS. Adds standard language developed by the Sunset Advisory Commission regarding public access to the executive committee.

Sec. 112.0471. QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS OF CONDUCT. Adds standard language developed by the Sunset Advisory Commission regarding qualifications and standards of conduct of members of the executive committee and employees of TOP.

Sec. 112.0472. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICIES. Adds standard language developed by the Sunset Advisory Commission regarding equal employment opportunity policies.

SECTION 3. Amends Sec. 112.052, Human Resources Code, to provide that the Office for the Prevention of Developmental Disabilities is abolished and this subchapter expires on September 1, 2007, unless continued as provided by Chapter 325, Government Code.

SECTION 4. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 5. Emergency clause.